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Access all the stories, columns and blogs we feature on our full website (at

metronews.ca), search through our archives, and on the iPhone, share any of our content with your friends through email, Facebook or Twitter.

Twitter, the much talked about website, is equal parts social networking, blogging tool and information feed, in which each post — at a maximum of 140 characters — is called a tweet.

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You can also follow Metro Ottawa's Twitter at [twitter.com/metroottawa](http://twitter.com/metroottawa)

**"This is just the beginning."**

Jodi Brown, Metro's interactive director

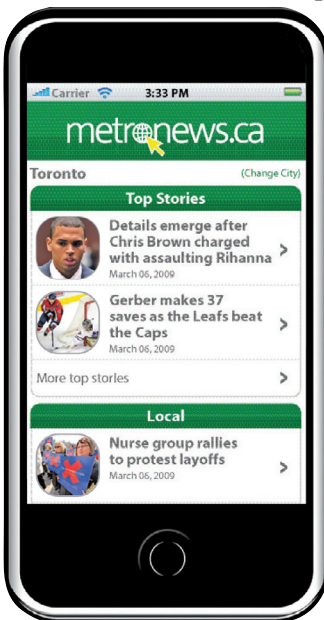
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The Carleton Ravens celebrated their 87-77 victory over the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport men's basketball championships at Scotiabank Place yesterday.

# Ravens No. 1

## After 6 of last 7 CIS championships — finally one at home

MIKE BEASLEY  
for Metro Ottawa

**All year long, the Carleton Ravens had been regarded as the number 1 men's basketball team in Canadian Interuniversity Sport.**

But yesterday afternoon, they made it official.

The dream season had a happy ending for the Ravens, who defeated the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds 87-77 in the final game of the 2009 Canadian Interuniversity Sports men's basketball championships.

To make the victory even sweeter, the Ravens won on their home turf — hosting the prestigious tournament

for the second year in a row at Scotiabank Place.

"I'm so happy — especially for our three seniors, Stuart Turnbull, Aaron Doornekamp and Robert Saunders," said Ravens head coach Dave Smart.

"They worked so hard to pull the team along all season after a huge disappointment last year."

The Ravens have now won six of the last seven CIS men's basketball championships, but this was the first in front of a building full of their fans and friends.

"Our crowd is always supportive no matter if it's here

or at our gym at Carleton. It's great that we won the championship in front of them because we get so much from our alumni, the community and the students," Smart said.

Turnbull was named the tournament MVP

and led the Ravens with 22 points followed by Saunders with 18. Kevin McCleery finished with 15 points and eight rebounds.

Chris Dyck was the Thunderbirds' top scorer with 21 points and six rebounds. Josh Whyte had 13 points while Blayne Labranche finished with 13 points.

UBC came into the tournament as the third seed and knocked off the Dalhousie Tigers in the quarter finals before defeating the University of Calgary Dinos, their Canada West Conference rivals in semi-final action to give themselves a chance at a national title.

"Our goal was to come here and play the best basketball that UBC could and I think we did," said T-Birds head coach Kevin Hanson.

"I'm very proud of the guys and the way they battled all weekend. We came up short in the end, but still had a great season."

ShareYourViews

ottawalatters@metronews.ca

### Riding the Recession

Now through the end of March, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Comment & Views  
• Wise words for rough times from Anne Hines, pg 6

Tomorrow  
• How musicians and music labels are dealing with the economy.





Police confirmed the identity of the 49-year-old woman killed at King Edward Avenue and St. Patrick Street Thursday morning. Feng Ying Samantha Wong of Ottawa was killed after the car she was driving collided with a cement truck. **METRO OTTAWA**

# Local



## Parking restrictions back to normal

With OC Transpo buses getting back to their regular service today, parking restrictions also return to normal. On-street metered parking rates will return to \$3 per hour. The temporary parking lots that opened during the transit strike will close, as will carpooling lots at city facilities and carpooling discounts at municipal lots. All-day on-street parking at one-, two- and three-hour unmetered parking locations will no longer be permitted. **METRO OTTAWA**

# Kilrea says goodbye to 67's

Legendary hockey coach calls it a career after 31 years behind the bench

**TIM WIECLAWSKI**  
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**The first time Brian Kilrea retired from hockey, back in 1970, he thought it was for good.**

"I didn't want anything to do with hockey at that time," said the former player. "I didn't think I could go back. I wasn't that good anyway."

Then his wife, Judy, volunteered him to coach a minor hockey team. A few years later, a midget hockey team he coached played a touring Russian team to a 4-4 draw in front of a then-record crowd at the Ottawa Civic Centre.

Shortly after that game, the people who owned the Ottawa 67's at the time asked if he was interested in becoming their head coach and general manager.



Ottawa 67's head coach Brian Kilrea waves to a packed crowd at the Ottawa Civic Centre during a ceremony yesterday to mark his final regular season game behind the 67's bench.

That was 1974. Since then, Kilrea spent around 31 of the 35 seasons behind the 67's bench, separated only by a brief stint as an assistant coach with the New York Islanders and a short-

lived retirement in 1995.

Yesterday, a standing room-only crowd packed into Ottawa Civic Centre to see Kilrea's last game behind the 67's bench.

Kilrea credited the own-

ers of the 67's for kick-starting his coaching career. "They took a chance on someone who had no experience in hockey other than working with midgets and little kids," he said.

"I've been so fortunate to have owners that were tolerant. People have asked me the secret to longevity in coaching. I've always told them to get to know the owners and become good friends. It's tough to fire a friend."

During the ceremony that saw a special banner lifted to the rafters, hockey commentator Don Cherry and Wayne Gretzky paid tribute to Kilrea in recorded segments.

"He's the greatest coach in junior hockey, still looks good and he's a good buddy of mine," said Cherry, who was a teammate with Kilrea on the Springfield Indians in 1959.

On winning the Memorial Cup in Ottawa in the first season of owning the team, Jeff Hunt said "it was a magical first season and it's been special relationship ever since."

## Three hurt in head-on collision

**CRASH** Three people are in hospital with serious injuries after a head-on collision in the city's south end early yesterday morning.

At 4:11 a.m., two vehicles crashed head-on on Albion Road just north of Leitrim Road.

One vehicle was on fire while the other had rolled over into the ditch.

An Ottawa paramedic who happened to be refuelling his vehicle at the city's Leitrim Road fuelling site when the collision occurred was at the scene immediately.

Paramedics treated a male in his 20s from the rollover vehicle who suffered chest and leg trauma. He was taken to hospital where he was in serious but stable condition.

Paramedics also treated and immobilized the two occupants from the vehicle that was on fire. They were taken to hospital and are in stable condition.

Ottawa police are now investigating the collision.

**TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA**

## Police quickly nab suspect in robbery

**TIM WIECLAWSKI**  
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**CRIME** For the sixth time in just over a month, the Food Frenz convenience store in west Ottawa was held up shortly after midnight yesterday, but this time, the suspected robber didn't get very far.

Hours after a group of concerned area residents held a rally to draw attention to a rash of robberies in the area of Carling Avenue and Grenon Avenue, a lone male armed with a knife entered the convenience store at 2910 Carling Ave., took all the cash from the till and fled on foot through Michele Heights Park.

Within two minutes, about 10 police cars responded to the robbery quickly and pursued a suspect on foot from the con-

venience store through the park to Michele Drive, where he was arrested.

Both the knife and money have been recovered by the officers.

"They came from everywhere. It's very nice," said store owner Alice Jadon.

Since Feb. 7, the Food Frenz has been robbed six times. Jadon and her husband spent a lot of money upgrading security in the store in that time. They've made the lights outside the store brighter and kept the doors and windows clear to let the clerk see outside and lock the door if necessary. She said they've set up other security measures, but didn't want to advertise.

"We want to keep it secret," she said. "We don't want those buggers to know what we have. That's the way we catch these guys very fast."

## Ottawans protest seal hunt

**TRACEY TONG**  
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

**RALLY** Linda Steele remembers signing her first petition against the seal hunt as a young girl in grade school. She's been dedicated to the cause since.

"I don't want my tax dollars supporting the hunt," she said. "It's a big black mark on Canada. This isn't a hunt. It's a slaughter."

The Ottawa resident was one of more than 100 people who attended a rally in the ByWard Market yesterday to protest the seal hunt.

The rally, which later moved down to Parliament Hill and to the Embassy of the European Commission, is one of many events taking place worldwide for the International Day of Action against the Seal Hunt.

"We're here to raise awareness about the seal hunt and to let people know that their taxpayers' dollars are paying for it," said International Fund for Animal Welfare senior researcher Sheryl Fink.

Fink, who has witnessed firsthand the "largest slaughter of marine mam-



More than 100 people attended a rally in the ByWard Market and Parliament Hill yesterday to mark the International Day of Action against the Seal Hunt.

mals in the world," said the hunt kills animals solely for their fur.

"It targets seal cubs between three weeks and three months of age," said Fink, who called the hunt "cruel."

"They haven't learned to swim. They're crying out in pain and left on the ice to suffer."

Those attending the rally are in good company, said

Senator Mac Harb, who introduced Bill S-229 to end commercial sealing in Canada, while protecting Inuit and Aboriginal sealing.

"The majority of people do care," he said.

Commercial sealing, which saw the killing of more than a million seal pups in the last four years, is expected to claim 250,000 seals this year.

## News in brief

**ARREST** Police have charged a third Ottawa resident in connection with robberies at the Bob MacQuarrie Recreation

Complex in October, the Food Basics in December and the Independent Grocer in January.

**METRO OTTAWA**

**metronews.ca**

What's online today.

**Video** Protesters prepare to give George W. Bush a frosty reception when he arrives in Calgary this week at [metronews.ca/canada](http://metronews.ca/canada)  
**Video** Investors enter the week cautiously optimistic after the recent market rally at [metronews.ca/canada](http://metronews.ca/canada)  
**Video** Thirty arrested after Montreal's annual protest against police brutality turns violent at [metronews.ca/canada](http://metronews.ca/canada)  
**Comment** Can a permanent resident travel abroad without a residency card in case of emergency at [metronews.ca/immigration](http://metronews.ca/immigration)



## Lotteries

**Friday, March 13**  
Lotto Super 7: 6, 15, 18, 24, 35, 36 & 46. Bonus 17.  
**Saturday, March 14**  
Lotto 6/49: 4, 11, 13, 16, 41 & 45. Bonus 35.  
**Sunday, March 15**  
Ontario Pick 3: 1 6 4; Ontario Pick 4: 5 8 5 3  
Encore: 4820195;  
Daily Keno: 8, 13, 17, 18, 19, 24, 26, 27, 31, 32, 35, 38, 44, 48, 54, 55, 58, 61, 66, 69.  
These results are not official.



**Bodies recovered in Muskoka lake**

Police recovered the bodies of Carolyn Bray-Robinson, 46, and Joeline Robinson, 12, from Lake Rousseau in Muskoka Lake Township yesterday. The mother and daughter fell through the ice Saturday while riding an all-terrain vehicle. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Canada



## Kidnapped nurse freed

Canadian nurse Laura Archer, left, and two other aid workers with Doctors Without Borders who were kidnapped in Darfur have been released, a government official said Saturday. The development came three days after gunmen seized the workers from their office in Saraf Umra, about 200 kilometres west of the city of El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur.

CBC NEWS ONLINE

# Bodies found in downed chopper

**Between 10 and 13 bodies have been found inside the wreckage of a sunken helicopter that crashed off the coast of Newfoundland.**

One of the newly discovered bodies has been brought to the surface and is now onboard the Atlantic Osprey supply ship, Transportation Safety Board officials told reporters at a press conference this afternoon.

Lead investigator Mike Cunningham said a remote-operated vehicle equipped with a mechanical arm was able to lift the body from the crash site into a basket that was then lifted to the surface. The identity of the body is not yet known.

## Crash victims

- Tim Lanouette, 48, Comox, B.C.
- Thomas Anwyll, 46, Langley, B.C.
- Peter Breen, 55, St. John's, N.L.
- Gary Corbett, 46, of Conception Bay South, N.L.
- Wade Drake, 42, Fortune, N.L.
- Wade Duggan, 32, Witless Bay, N.L.
- Colin Henley, 38, St. John's, N.L.
- Ken MacRae, 47, Greenwood, N.S.
- Derrick Mallowney, 51, Bay Bulls, N.L.
- Burch Nash, 44, Fortune, N.L.
- Paul Pike, 49, Shearstown, N.L.
- Allison Maher, 26, Aquaforte, N.L.
- Corey Eddy, 32, Paradise, N.L.
- The names of the remaining four casualties are not being released at the request of family members.

He said the number of bodies found in the wreckage is preliminary.

"There could be more. We have to begin a recovery of the wreckage to know for sure," Cunningham said, adding there has been a substantial delay since the discovery of the

first body. He could not say what caused the delay, but noted search crews must work through what he called "quite a mess down there."

Officials also revised their assessment of the structural integrity of the fuselage, which is located in 178 metres of water. When the wreckage was discovered yesterday, initial reports indicated the fuselage was in relatively good condition. However, Cunningham said as more images were relayed from remote-controlled cameras to search crews aboard the Osprey, it became clear the fuselage was damaged more than originally thought.

As a result, the remote-operated vehicle will remove as many bodies as possible from the wreckage before an attempt to raise the chopper is made. Cunningham said if weather co-operates and ocean conditions remain favourable, the bodies could be brought to the surface within 18 to 24 hours. Shortly after Thursday's crash, the body of 26-year-old Allison Maher of Mount Pearl was pulled from the water. Her funeral is tomorrow.

The lone survivor, Robert Decker of St. John's, remains in hospital in critical but stable condition.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## B.C. suffers three more shootings

JEFF HODSON  
Metro Canada

**VIOLENCE** Homicide investigators yesterday identified the 36-year-old woman gunned down in a targeted hit during a weekend of violence across B.C.'s Lower Mainland that included three shootings and a gun-point abduction.

Laura Lynn Lamoureux was shot to death in the road at 5 a.m. Saturday in the city of Langley.

"This homicide is linked to the street-level drug trade and has the signature of being a targeted murder."

Cpl. Dale Carr said the signature of being a targeted murder, said Cpl. Dale Carr, a spokesperson for the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team.

Lamoureux was known to police for her involvement in the drug trade.

The shooting was the second of three over the weekend.

In the most recent, a 29-year-old man walked into a Shell Station at 3:15 a.m. yesterday bleeding from his chest.

He is believed to have been shot about half a block away where yellow police tape blocked the driveway of a high-rise apartment.

Two days earlier, a man in his 20s was shot several times in Surrey.

## Losing their shirts in Rome

**CRIME** They came to Italy hoping to buy souvenirs, but instead they're spending money on socks.

Just after arriving in Rome, a group of students from a Burlington, Ont., high school had their tour bus broken into while they were having dinner.

"We thought it was a joke when they said someone had broken into the bus," said Nicole Martin, 17, who estimates the thieves stole \$4,000 worth of her clothing.

About half of the roughly 50 people on the trip lost luggage, including clothes, money, credit cards and, in at least one case, a passport.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## News in brief

**CHARGES** Ontario Provincial Police have charged a female officer with attempted murder and several other offences after a fire at a home in Timmins, Ont. Det.-Const. Cecile Fournel, 52, was arrested and charged with attempted murder, arson, disregard for human life and administering a noxious thing.

**FUNERALS** Hundreds of people lined the streets and filled a New Brunswick chapel and an Ontario armoury Saturday for the funerals of two soldiers killed in Afghanistan. Cpl. Kenneth Chad O'Quinn, 24, of Oromocto, N.B., and Warrant Officer Dennis Brown, 38, of St. Catharines, Ont., died when a roadside bomb exploded March 3 northwest of Kandahar City.

CBC NEWS ONLINE

## Montreal **Protesting police brutality**



Police made roughly 50 arrests yesterday in Montreal as protesters rallied against police brutality. Skirmishes erupted as protesters lit garbage cans on fire and threw things such as bricks, bottles and food at police monitoring the protest.

# Scientists plan to drive across the icy Northwest Passage

**RESEARCH** Scientists preparing for the exploration of Mars are planning history's first car drive through the fabled Northwest Passage, a trip they said will provide data on global warming and man's potential impact on other planets.

The trip using a modified armoured Humvee vehicle will provide comprehen-

**"It's not just about protecting men from Mars. It's also about protecting Mars from men."**

Pascal Lee, expedition leader

sive data about the thickness of winter ice in the waterway through Canada's High Arctic, said Pascal Lee, chairperson of the Mars Institute and leader of

the expedition Friday.

The scientists also hope to learn more about what happens to the microbes left behind by humans as they explore remote areas, amid

concerns from some scientists about the detrimental impact of such journeys in space.

"It's not just about protecting men from Mars. It's also about protecting Mars from men," Lee said in an interview.

Long sought as a faster route between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, the

Northwest Passage was first traversed by ship in 1906 by Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen, a trip that took three years to complete.

This 1,600-kilometre trip, if successful, would mark the first time a road vehicle has driven the length of the passage, the researchers told a Vancouver news conference. **REUTERS**



Heavily armed fighters have killed more than 200 people in raids on villages in South Sudan, where bloody tribal disputes over cattle are jeopardizing peace efforts in the oil-rich region, officials said yesterday. **REUTERS**

# World



## Discovery heads for the stars

The space shuttle Discovery roared off its Florida launch pad yesterday carrying a crew of American and Japanese astronauts on a 13-day construction mission to the International Space Station. The 125th flight of the U.S. space shuttle program, delayed for more than a month by technical problems, lifted off at 7:43 p.m. EDT from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. **REUTERS**

## Dems, GOP outraged over AIG bonuses

**BAILOUT** U.S. President Barack Obama's top advisers and Democratic and Republican congressional leaders voiced outrage yesterday that insurer American International Group, recipient of a \$173-billion US taxpayer bailout, is paying \$165 million in employee bonuses.

But they agreed it was unclear what, if anything, the government can do to cut the bonuses since the contracts seem legally binding.

Lawmakers said, however, that plenty of questions need to be answered and some AIG officials may need to be ousted. They also said legislation may be needed to avoid a repeat of such action and retain public confidence in federal bailouts.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell said of the bonuses, "This is an outrage," and that the Obama administration needs to do more. **REUTERS**

### News in brief

**DEATHS** Two Israeli policemen were shot dead in the occupied West Bank yesterday, and Israeli police said they suspected a Palestinian attack. "The main suspicion points to a nationalistic motive," police spokesperson Micky Rosenfeld said.

**POLITICS** Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez yesterday said he would allow Russian planes to use one of his nation's islands on long-range flights, boosting ties between two countries at odds with Washington. "I told President (Dmitry) Medvedev that every time Russian strategic (planes) need to make a stop in Venezuela as part of strategic plans, Venezuela is ready to help," Chavez said during a weekly broadcast.

**NORTHERN IRELAND** Police arrested three men in Northern Ireland on Saturday in connection with the killing of two soldiers by militants seeking to rid the province of British sovereignty by force. Northern Ireland's police service is still viewed as a partisan pro-British force in hardline nationalist areas. **REUTERS**

# Power goes to people

## New law grants estate-held land to poor of Bolivia

**Emboldened by a new leftist constitution, Bolivian President Evo Morales Saturday handed over ownership of farmland seized by the state from wealthy estate-holders to poor indigenous people.**

Morales handed out about 94,000 acres of lands recently confiscated from five big ranches in Bolivia's wealthy eastern lowlands, a stronghold of his conservative political opponents. The ranchers have been accused of employing workers in condi-

### Tighter grip

• The transfer of farmland to poor indigenous people came six weeks after President Evo Morales celebrated the approval of a new leftist constitu-

tion that aims to give Bolivia's indigenous majority more power, lets him run for re-election and hands him tighter control over the economy.

tions of semi-slavery.

"Private property will always be respected but we want people who are not interested in equality to change their thinking and focus more on country than currency," said

Morales, flanked by military and police personnel.

Among those who lost land was U.S. cattleman Ronald Larsen, who has emerged as a key opponent of the Morales government's land reforms,

which are designed to distribute more of the nation's riches to poor indigenous peoples.

Larsen and other ranchers who had threatened to block the handover of their lands can still appeal the expropriations before agrarian courts.

An Aymara Indian and former leader of coca-leaf farmers, Morales is Bolivia's first indigenous president. He has governed the resource-rich nation for three years. **REUTERS**

## Not-guilty pleas from U.S. couples

**BABY BUY CASE** Two U.S. couples pleaded not guilty on Saturday to charges of buying babies in Egypt for illegal adoption, a lawyer and judicial sources said.

"They all said they are not guilty," said Sameh Ahmed Saleh, a lawyer for Louis Andros and Iris Botros, one of the couples facing the allegations of buying babies. The judge ordered the trial to begin on May 16, he said.

Egyptian prosecutors in January charged 11 people in the suspected scheme, including a third U.S. couple believed to be in the United States with the baby they obtained in Egypt.

The two couples are in custody in Egypt. **REUTERS**

## Pakistan Crisis brewing



An activist from Pakistani Islamist party Jamaat-e-Islami holds a bamboo stick as he scuffles with a policeman during a countrywide anti-government protest march in Lahore yesterday. A potential political crisis between the government and opposition parties worries the U.S. and U.K., who both fear that any chaos would help a Taliban and al-Qaida presence in that country.

## Man shoots wife, her family in Miami

**SHOOTING** A Cuban immigrant shot and killed four people including his estranged wife before taking his own life early yesterday in Miami, police and local media said.

A sergeant with the Miami Police Department's homicide division who declined to give his name said the man, wielding a semi-automatic handgun, shot his victims inside a house in the city's Little Havana district shortly after midnight.

He then sped off in a pickup truck and turned the gun on himself at his home, which he had apparently set on fire, about three miles away.

"It was domestic-related," the sergeant said. "The wife left him and he tracked her down, unfortunately."

### Previous violence

• In Alabama last week, near that state's southeast border with Florida, a man shot and killed 10 people including his mother, grandmother, uncle and two cousins, before shooting himself dead.

tunately."

He declined to elaborate, saying the case was still under investigation.

But the Miami Herald said victims of the shooter, who had moved to Miami from Cuba about 10 years ago, included his wife, her daughter and her mother. The daughter's boyfriend was also killed, according to the newspaper. **REUTERS**

## China warns West on Tibet

**CONFLICT** China warned the West not to "put its fingers into" Tibet as the anniversary on Saturday of riots in Lhasa passed with heavy security to prevent any challenge to Beijing's rule.

Rioting broke out in Lhasa on March 14 last year after days of protests against Chinese rule by Buddhist monks, killing 19 people and sparking waves of protests across Tibetan areas. **REUTERS**

Exile groups say more than 200 people died in the crackdown.

Twelve months on, a web of troops and police across Tibetan areas deterred any flare ups and by the evening there were no reports of protests.

Matt Whitticase, a London-based spokesman for Free Tibet, said the group's contacts had not called to report any protests on Saturday. **REUTERS**

## Bin Laden rails against Arab leaders

**TERRORISM** Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden accused conservative Arab leaders of plotting with the West against Muslims and urged his followers to prepare for jihad (holy war), in a recording posted on Islamist websites.

"The hearts of our

rulers are like those of the enemies. Whether in Najd (Saudi Arabia) or in Egypt, they never soften, Pharaohs who have returned to humiliate Arabs," he said, reciting a poem honouring Gaza resistance to Israel's offensive.

He also called for the creation of a body of devout clerics to draw up a list warning Muslims about "enemies, hypocrites, their media such as newspapers ... radio stations and satellite channels."

**REUTERS**



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<b>JORDAN</b> 4.9 ¢/min 	<b>LEBANON</b> 9.9 ¢/min 
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Bahrain.....5.9 ¢	Kuwait.....6.9 ¢
Egypt.....14.9 ¢	Oman.....17.9 ¢
Iran.....3.9 ¢	Saudi Arabia.....3.9 ¢
Iraq.....4.9 ¢	Syria.....18.9 ¢
Israel.....2.9 ¢	U.A.E.....19.9 ¢

## Latin America

<b>ECUADOR</b> 12.9 ¢/min 	<b>CUBA</b> 85 ¢/min 
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Haiti.....16.9 ¢	Bolivia.....6.9 ¢
Honduras.....15.9 ¢	Chile.....2.9 ¢
Panama.....3.9 ¢	Colombia.....3.9 ¢
Uruguay.....7.9 ¢	Dominican Rep.....6.9 ¢
Venezuela.....2.9 ¢	Mexico.....2.9 ¢

## South Asia

<b>INDIA</b> 6.9 ¢/min 	<b>PAKISTAN</b> 5.9 ¢/min 
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Bangladesh from.....3.9 ¢
Bhutan.....15.9 ¢
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# Comment & Views

## Comment

# Hope in times of trouble

## HineSight

Anne Hines

metronews.ca/hinesight

This column concludes my four-part humour series on the economic crisis. Not that there isn't more to say about it, but when I realized I can no longer afford my cable TV package, the recession just stopped being as funny as I'd hoped.

So today, I leave you with some words of encouragement.

When it comes to any challenging life issue, we need to ask ourselves, "What's the worst that could happen?"

The answer is always this: "The Earth could burst into a huge flaming fireball and we could all die horribly."

Now ask: "Is the current financial downturn likely to cause that?" Of course not. It will only feel like it. There, doesn't it all seem better already?

Having concluded the worst isn't possible ... or well, likely, we can steel ourselves for dealing with a "not quite so bad as actual death" scenario.

The way I help myself get through difficult times is to consult people wiser than myself.

Fortunately, such people are not hard to find.

Usually, what these sages offer is simple, basic, sensible advice.

The kind of advice my mother gives. They just don't follow it up with, "And if you'd sat up

## Riding the Recession

straight at the dinner table, none of this would be happening." It makes all the difference.

Here we go, "You have nothing to fear but fear itself."

You see? We have only fear to fear. Well, that and ending up living in the dumpster behind the local No Frills.

I fear that for sure. Oh, and never knowing the pleasure of proper dental hygiene ever again.

I fear that. So those things and fear itself.

Actually this quote is not making me feel any better. "A penny saved is a penny earned."

Having checked my most recent RRSP statement I can tell you that this is not the case.

Apparently, in fact, "A penny saved is a penny sucked into the black hole of our tanking economy."

Has a nice ring to it though, doesn't it?

Finally from author Henry Miller. Miller insisted that happiness lies in pursuing wine, women, song and avoiding riches.

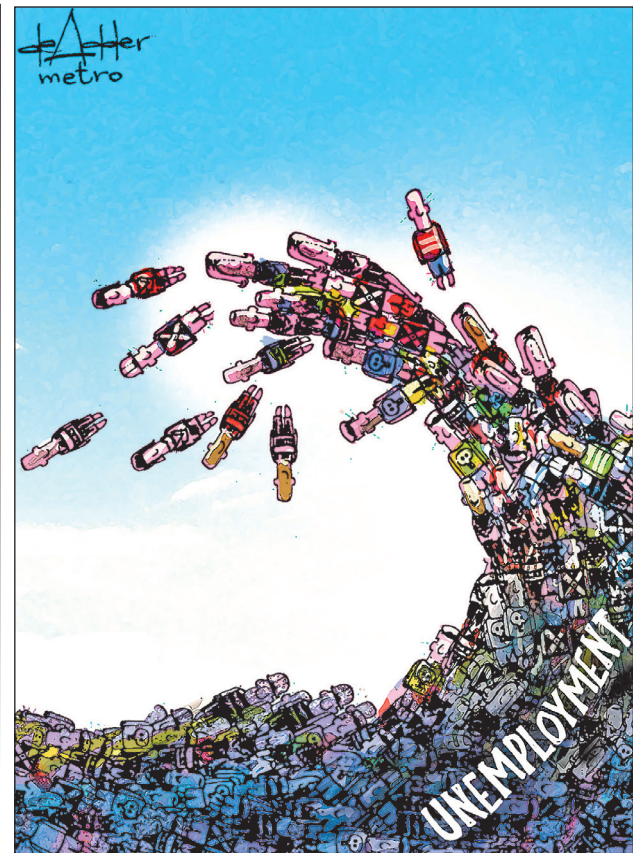
He blew his royalties on said wine and women (the singing was free), ending up living in a hut on Malibu beach.

This, in the 1950s, was the Californian equivalent of a dumpster behind the No Frills.

Miller famously said, "If there is to be any peace it will come through being, not having."

In bad times and good, this gives me hope.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.



MICHAEL DE ADER

## Views

# Transit strike wounds haven't healed

## InTransit

John Holmes

metronews.ca/holmes

Ottawa is a city with a severe culture of overwork. Here, many federal employees actually choose to start work at 7 a.m., muttering vague excuses about "quality of life" and "going to the gym," then staying until 5 p.m. anyway.

No apologies are made for the fact that overwork and early bedtimes have a significant detrimental effect on the cultural life of our city.

Overwork is something that's also welcomed by Ottawa's bus drivers. Throughout the history of

the union movement, workers have battled for better working conditions and shorter hours.

Not in Ottawa. According to the ATU, a 14-hour day for bus drivers isn't excessive. It's actually prohibitively short.

One of the transit strike's most contentious issues has now ominously resurfaced. In 1989, OC Transpo persuaded the federal government it should be exempt from the Commercial Vehicle Drivers Hours Of Service Regulations, which limit drivers to a 14-hour working day. The aim was increasing efficiency and saving money.

Now that federal Minister of Transport John Baird wants to close that loophole, we have a bizarre situation. OC Transpo is arguing against the position it took 20 years ago, and

agrees with Baird; The ATU, however, is fervently defending the rights of its members to work long, arduous shifts with very little sleep.

Since the emergence of the Canadian labour movement in the 19th century, there can't have been many disputes quite like this. Only in overworked Ottawa could we find a labour dispute with workers voluntarily demanding they be allowed to run themselves into the ground.

This working hours issue is tied up with the equally contentious scheduling issue.

But they're not one and the same. Drivers started choosing their own schedules in 1999, after recommendations in a report by consulting group KMPG aimed at rebuilding the relationship between man-

agement and staff. The scheduling provisions still benefit drivers, even if regulations force them to stick to a sensible number of hours.

Should bus drivers be allowed to pick their own schedules? Where possible, yes.

Should they be able to work excessive hours that put them at risk of developing fatigue?

No. According to the city, 65 out of 1,625 drivers work more than 14 hours a day at least once a week. That is a relatively small percentage. The wounds of the transit strike still haven't healed. Let's hope we don't see another damaging dispute over this issue.

John Holmes is a writer for various publications in Canada and the U.K. He's never had a driver's licence, and has relied on public transit all his adult life; ottawaleaders@metronews.ca

## Letters



### A different story with a different religion

Re: *Atheist bus ads.*

This is appalling but no surprise in our oh-so-democratic nation.

I am all for freedom of speech, and by no means am I racist or prejudice against anyone, but this has gone too far.

God forbid I utter the phrase "Merry Christmas" in a supermarket around the holidays for fear of making some other nationalities or religious groups feel uncomfortable — but we can run these blasphemous ads on our city buses?

There is something not right about the way we treat the citizens of our own na-

tion versus the minority groups that exist.

Call me crazy, but something tells me that if there were an ad run on a city bus that read "There probably is no four-armed Ganesh ... Now stop worrying and remove your turban" people (including officials who make these decisions) would have a very different opinion.

JESSE REYNOLDS, OTTAWA

### Why start another religious war over atheist bus ads?

Re: *Atheist bus ads.*

I can't believe that people are freaking out about these ads.

As a non-believer, I have never once complained about the advertising one sees from the Church. If you believe in God, ignore the signs.

The ads are not offensive, just as the ads in favour of religion are not offensive.

Are there not enough religious wars in this world without adding another?

LAURIE WINDLE, OTTAWA

## Metro Online Poll Results

63% SAID YES

Should police forces have powers of preventative detention?

37% SAID NO

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: ottawaleaders@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.



**Global forum seeks to avert water crisis**

Government ministers from 120 countries, scientists and campaigners will meet in Istanbul, Turkey, this week to discuss how to avert a global water crisis and ease tensions between states fighting over rivers, lakes and glaciers. **REUTERS**

7

# Business



## Rich urged to make sacrifices

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev yesterday urged the country's richest businessmen to repay their "moral debts" to society during the economic crisis. "If a man becomes a real businessman, he can appreciate his employees and will try to put off some of his plans, some of his personal consumption to maintain his staff, keep paying it, and save the business he was running in the past years," Medvedev said. **REUTERS**

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

# 83,000 more jobs disappear in February

Fourth straight month of declines pushes national unemployment rate up to 7.7%

**Canada's deepening recession claimed another 83,000 jobs last month, pushing the unemployment rate up half a percentage point to 7.7 per cent and offering more grim evidence that the global economic storm is bearing down with full force.**

On the heels of a massive contraction of 129,000

positions in January, February marked the fourth straight month of employment declines and brought total job losses to 295,000 since October's peak. The national jobless rate now stands almost two percentage points higher than at the start of 2008, and is at its highest level since 2003. Forecasters expect it to continue rising rapidly,

**"The Canadian downturn is actually now accelerating at a more rapid pace than in the U.S., and that wasn't supposed to happen."** Derek Holt, Scotia Capital Economics

with economists at the Toronto Dominion Bank saying this week unemployment will hit 10 per cent by the end of the year. While the job numbers

"are not wildly out of bounds versus consensus, they loudly confirm that Canada is in the heart of a recession, which is quickly rivalling that of the early

1990s and early 1980s," BMO Capital Markets deputy chief economist Douglas Porter wrote in a research note.

The unemployment report, along with other indicators, "are suggesting that the Canadian downturn is actually now accelerating at a more rapid pace than in the U.S., and that wasn't supposed to happen," said

Derek Holt, vice-president of Scotia Capital Economics.

The losses were larger than economists had expected, with Ontario once again bearing the brunt. Canada's most-populous province shed 35,000 jobs last month, mainly in construction and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Patience a must for green-sector investors

**INDUSTRY** It will take more than government incentive plans and bargain prices for stocks in Canada's green-energy sector to flourish, and investors will need patience if they are to hit pay dirt.

While the long-term outlook for companies working with solar, wind and water power is promising, the business now is being buffeted by the recession, a credit crunch and tumbling fuel prices.

"All these beaten-up renewable, publicly traded companies are amazing value right now. That's not

to say that they still can't go down further, because this market is now driven on psychology, not cash-flow fundamentals," said Jacob & Co. power equity analyst John McIlveen.

"But I think power, especially renewables, will always skate back inside."

Under long-term power-supply pacts, buyers must pay whether or not goods are delivered, creating a long-term hedge against volatility. Annual returns on 20-year contracts typically range from 10 per cent to 25 per cent, McIlveen said.

**REUTERS**

## Atlantic City Casinos hurting



A dealer works at a poker table at the Borgata casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey, yesterday. Business at Atlantic City's 11 casinos is falling at a record pace, with aggregate revenue plunging 19.2 per cent in February from a year earlier, according to the New Jersey Casino Control Commission. Casinos in Las Vegas are also experiencing a severe decline in business.

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## Business in brief

**WASHINGTON** U.S. President Barack Obama will announce steps today to make it easier for small-business owners to borrow money, using \$730 million US in stimulus funds to cut lending fees, boost loan guarantees and expand programs,

officials said. Small businesses have accounted for about 70 per cent of new job growth over the past decade.

**TAX EVASION** Black-listed tax havens Andorra and Liechtenstein last week relaxed their

strict bank secrecy rules in the face of a global crackdown that looks set to force top offshore centre Switzerland to open up. This comes ahead of a G20 summit on April 2 that is expected to seek ways to fight offshore tax evasion. **REUTERS**



**Correctional Service Canada** **Service correctionnel Canada**

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Correctional Service Canada will be relocating the Ottawa Parole Office. Through a tendering process, Correctional Service Canada and Public Works and Government Services Canada have identified 1010 Somerset Street and 831 Industrial Avenue as potential relocation sites.

Correctional Service Canada is committed to taking into consideration the concerns and views of the community prior to relocating the parole office. Members of the public are invited to learn more about the role of the Parole Office in the community and provide comments via an Online Consultation tool at <http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/consultation> until April 1, 2009, or by attending Town Hall meetings taking place as follows:

**For the 1010 Somerset Street site:**  
**Monday, March 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**The Bronson Centre, 211 Bronson Avenue, Ottawa, ON**

**For the 831 Industrial Avenue site:**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**The Chimo Hotel, 1199 Joseph Cyr Street, Ottawa, ON**

The objective of these consultations is to inform and consult communities prior to the selection of the site. We welcome your attendance and your feedback. For more information, please contact Brian Wheeler at 613-992-2307.

**Canada**



The Canadian trio of Kristina Groves, Christine Nesbitt and Brittany Schussler won gold in the women's team pursuit yesterday at the world singles distances speedskating championships. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

## Big East headlines March Madness

**NCAA** The Big East conference dominated the top seeds for the NCAA Tournament, garnering three of the possible four spots as Louisville, Pittsburgh and Connecticut, along with North Carolina were installed as the top seeds for the 2009 event. Louisville (28-5), the reigning Big East regular season and tourney champions, are on a 10-game winning streak. The Cardinals were selected as the overall No. 1 seed in the tournament and will play out of the Midwest Region. The tournament begins with a play-in game tomorrow and the remaining 64 teams start Thursday.

## Avery scores twice in Rangers win

**NHL** Sean Avery scored a pair of power-play goals to lift the New York Rangers to a 4-1 victory yesterday over the Philadelphia Flyers. Nik Antropov also scored on the power play and Fredrik Sjöström tacked on a third-period goal for the Rangers, who gained a split of the home-and-home set after dropping a 4-2 decision on Saturday in Philadelphia. New York, which started the day tied with Florida for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference, has won five of its last seven.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# The future doesn't look so bad

Five wins in six games aside, make no mistake. It's all about the future for the Senators and that future is, well, not bad.

In The Hockey News' annual Future Watch edition, which is on newsstands now, the Senators finished smack dab in the middle of the league at No. 15 among the NHL's 30 teams. The good news is that's far better than last year when the Senators were ranked 22nd.

The annual ranking is based on the quality of each team's drafted prospects not yet playing for them

and the players who are 21 and under and are playing for them. The ranking is done by a panel of pro scouts and directors of player personnel, the kind of people who watch NHL prospects on an almost nightly basis.

But it's still far from the halcyon days for the Senators when they were one of the top teams in the league and had a stable of prospects and young players who were the envy of much of the rest of the NHL.

But until recently, the Senators had not been pro-

## TheHockeyNews

Ken Campbell

thehockeynews.com

ducing much in the way of hometown players, which might explain why they might be able to add to their group with a top-five draft pick this June.

Much of the reason for their standing has to do with Swedish defenceman

Erik Karlsson, who was drafted 15th overall last summer. The 5-foot-11, 165-pound rearguard does not have NHL size, but he certainly possesses NHL-calibre talent. The 18-year-old scored two goals and nine points at the World Junior Championship and is playing a prominent role for Frolunda in the Swedish Elite League, but he's probably a couple of years away from full-time NHL employment.

Karlsson was ranked as the seventh-best NHL affiliate prospect, while goalie Brian Elliott was ranked

35th. When the exercise began, Elliott was a prospect, but has since become a full-time player in Ottawa and will likely hold the backup role to Pascal Leclaire next season.

Defenceman Patrick Wierchich of the University of Denver, drafted 42nd overall last June, was the other Senators' prospect to crack the top 75 prospect, finishing 74th.

The long-term future is shaping up reasonably well for the Senators. Now if they could just get the short-term future back on track.

## Mickelson beats illness, field

**Phil Mickelson overcame dehydration and exhaustion yesterday to earn his first World Golf Championships title at the CA Championship at Doral.**

Mickelson edged out co-leader Nick Watney thanks to a three-under 69. It was enough for Mickelson to get the victory at 19-under 269 and defeat Watney by a single stroke.

The win was well-earned by Mickelson, who was treated with IVs in a medical facility Saturday night.

With the victory, Mickelson moved to second in the world rankings and is very close to catching Tiger Woods.

"That's great, but he



Phil Mickelson holds the trophy after winning the CA Championship at Doral Golf Resort in Miami.

hasn't played in a year," said Mickelson, who pocketed \$1.4 million for the win. "I don't really want to go there as far as the world rankings."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## SCOREBOARD

### NHL

	W	L	OT	P
d-Boston	45	17	9	99
d-New Jersey	45	20	3	93
d-Washington	43	21	6	92
Philadelphia	37	21	10	84
Pittsburgh	37	26	8	82
Montreal	36	25	8	80
N.Y. Rangers	36	26	8	80
Carolina	36	28	6	79

Florida	34	25	10	78
Buffalo	34	27	8	76
Toronto	28	29	13	69
<b>OTTAWA</b>	28	30	10	66
Atlanta	28	35	6	62
Tampa Bay	23	32	14	60
N.Y. Islanders	24	38	8	56

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### YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Detroit 4 Columbus 0  
N.Y. Islanders 4 Chicago 2  
N.Y. Rangers 4 Philadelphia 1  
Pittsburgh 6 Boston 4  
St. Louis 5 Minnesota 3  
San Jose at Anaheim  
Colorado at Vancouver

### NBA

### YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Toronto 110 Indiana 87  
Atlanta 98 Portland 80  
Cleveland 98 New York 93  
L.A. Lakers 107 Dallas 100  
Memphis 89 Detroit 84  
Milwaukee 86 Boston 77  
Orlando 105 Utah 87  
Philadelphia 85 Miami 77  
Washington 106 Sacramento 104  
Phoenix at Golden State  
New Jersey at L.A. Clippers

### WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

### YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Japan 6 Cuba 0  
Netherlands vs. U.S.  
South Korea vs. Mexico

For more sports coverage visit:  
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## NBA Raptors' luck of the Irish?



Pops Mensah-Bonsu of the Raptors screams after dunking against Indiana yesterday. Toronto, wearing green in honour of St. Patrick's Day, snapped a seven-game losing streak, 110-87.

# ATTENTION

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# Going Green

EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

## Cool washing

Wash your clothes in cold water. According to the Canadian Energy Efficiency Centre, if all households in Canada switched to cold water, enough energy would be saved to light more than 2.5 million households each year. These energy savings could potentially prevent 1.5 billion kilograms of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere.

DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

# Trying to find the perfect fit

## Discussions around eco-friendly fabrics centre around organic cotton

### EarthTones

#### Sophia Dore & Andrew Laursen


[metronews.ca/earthtones](http://metronews.ca/earthtones)

**W**e were asked to write an article about eco-friendly clothing. Us? An article on fashion? One of us, not naming names, is lucky if his socks match when he goes to work. So rather than focusing on the vogue of eco-friendly, we thought we might talk about the fabrics of eco-friendly.

The debate about eco-friendly fabrics is actually pretty ancient, and began quite accidentally when the first stone-age comedian responded to a heckler with, "Hey, nice shirt! How many mammoths did you have to kill for that?" Since then, choice of fabric has reflected attitudes toward resources. Thankfully, we are now entering a time when the beaver hat is

long forgotten and sustainable fabrics are valued.

We have seen many different "sustainable" fabrics, including those made from shredded pop bottles. Plastic fibres can actually make a pretty good, rugged substitute for fabrics like canvas, and is great for things like backpacks.

However, it wouldn't make a great shirt. Bamboo and hemp fibres are also becoming more popular, and make good fabrics for clothing. However, the discussion around fabrics and eco-friendly fabrics really must centre around organic cotton.

In spite of growth in other plant fibres, cotton still provides about 50 per cent of all global fibre needs. Cotton is viewed as "natural" and, by many, preferable to synthetic fibres. However, traditional cotton is actually one of the most

environmentally-damaging agricultural products we grow, accounting for about 25 per cent of global insecticide use on about 2.5 per cent

of cropland.

Discussions of organic farming generally raise some ambivalent feelings for us. While moving away from heavy reliance on pesticides and synthet-

ic fertilizers sounds good, it can lead to significant reductions in crop yield. Compensating for the lost production requires more land and carries opportunity costs in use of agricultural land for other crops.

Organic cotton production may reduce yield, and frequently does relative to traditional cotton. However, a number of recent studies on organic cotton production have found that yield can be comparable.

Typically, organic cotton uses animal manure as well as "green manure," a cover crop that is later tilled into the soil. When this cover crop is a food crop, this added benefit can actually improve the efficiency of land use.

**A grass T-shirt may not be practical, but there are eco-friendly products out there that can make you look good and help save the planet.**

From a financial consideration, revenue from food production coupled with decreased expenditures on pesticides and increased premiums for organic cotton can even compensate the grower for any reduced cotton production.

Of course, nothing good comes without a price. Without the use of insecticides, a common practice is the use of natural predators. In California, production of organic cotton may employ the release of green lacewing larvae, predaceous mites, and wasps to reduce the populations of insects that damage cotton crops. This is probably the most damning aspect of organic cotton. The release of predaceous insects may have serious unintended consequences for beneficial insects as well.

While organic cotton may be better for the environment than traditional cotton, maybe it is time to become comfortable with being asked, "Hey buddy, how many nylons did you have to kill to make that shirt?"

Sophia Dore is an environmental scientist with Conestoga-Rovers & Associates. Andrew Laursen is an assistant professor at Ryerson University; [earthtones.metro@gmail.com](mailto:earthtones.metro@gmail.com).



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# Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

## Trent honours five

Trent University in Peterborough, Ont., announced recently that fresh water specialist Maude Barlow, actress and director Sarah Polley, the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, Aboriginal activist Tom Porter and artist Mary Pratt will receive honorary degrees at this June.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Manicures and martinis

Lounge takes leap into world of decadence after idea failed to wow the Dragons' Den

BRIAN TOWIE  
Metro Canada



**Jimmy Georgoulis wants to spoil customers with a double shot of decadence.**

The owner of Fuzion Resto-Lounge and Garden, in Toronto, is offering hardworking patrons the chance to indulge themselves by serving martinis while they get manicures in the fine dining restaurant's Vizion Lounge. Manicures start at \$25. Three-ounce martinis are \$11. "We're selling an experience," said Georgoulis, who has more than a decade of party-planning experience under his belt.

"We thought it would be neat to create a new social atmosphere where people can have a martini and a manicure done. So, we think it's very fun, creative and dynamic."

Georgoulis got



Toronto's Fuzion Resto-Lounge and Garden offers you a chance to get your nails done and sip a martini.

the inspiration for the idea when London, Ont., entrepreneur Martin Younan pitched the idea to the cast of investors on CBC reality show Dragons' Den. The Dragons turned him down. Six weeks following the airing of the episode, Georgoulis found Younan at his bar. The pair then pooled their resources to promote the service at an exclusive event last January.

"I thought it was a great idea, but I didn't think a shop exclusively for manicures and martinis had enough for it to be its own business," Georgoulis said.

"But I thought, 'it would be a great

idea for my business because I have the space for it, and it would be a great add-on. Time passed, I got busy and a few weeks later, who's in my bar sipping a martini?"

The tough times call for innovation, Georgoulis said and he's hoping the add-on will bring in more business in a bad economic climate.

"We file more than we cut, we give the hand a little bit of a massage and there's nothing toxic and smelly about it. It's something to do after work," he said.

"In these economic times, you need to draw more people into your restaurant, and that's one way to do it."



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**Popularity impacts earning power**

New research from U.K.-based Essex University adds to growing evidence that social skills are essential to success later on in life. The study found that for each extra friend a student had in school, their salary 35 years later was two per cent higher. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Picking nits and healing hearts

**OddJobs**

**Diane Peters**

Metronews.ca/oddjobs



As a child, Dawn Mucci had the kind of long, thick hair that lice just loved. She got so many infestations her classmates nicknamed her Dirty Dawn.

The memory of the taunts and the horrible smelling chemicals her dad put on her hair came back when Mucci's son came home with lice one day in 1999. The Toronto mom had a really hard time getting rid of it, and then got it herself.

Mucci went in a mission to find a chemical-free way to get rid of the vermin. By chance, she was thinking of changing jobs at the time (she was man-

aging a health and wellness store) and went to a job bank. She saw a posting for a nit picker there.

The woman running the company was doing manual lice removal and needed more staff. "Look, you've got to help me first and then I'll work for you," said Mucci.

Four months later, Mucci was managing the company. After a year, her boss called from a vacation in Hawaii saying she wasn't coming back.

She launched Lice Squad in 2000 and was busy right away through word-of-mouth. Before long, she was getting calls from outside the Toronto area. She began franchising her concept in 2001: "This is something anyone can do, if taught properly."

When Mucci, now 39 and relocated to Innisfil, Ont., gets a call from a client, usually a distressed parent, she shows up at

**"It truly is meaningful work. People are feeling very isolated and ostracized and they're very grateful."**

Lice Squad owner  
Dawn Mucci

their door with an unmarked car (staff have stickers, but they take them off when doing home visits) within one to three days.

She spends a lot of time talking to the client, educating them about lice (who love clean hair, by the way). She pulls out her gear, including lights, goggles, tweezers and lice comb. Mucci and her franchisees and staff follow a special seven-step process that involves identifying lice, killing the vermin and manual removal of bugs and eggs.

Previously trained in aromatherapy, Mucci has developed a full line of

natural hair products made with natural ingredients such as lemon and lavender. She uses some of her concoctions during an extraction, which takes about two hours on average, and offers up a

products for clients to buy as well.

Since the bugs themselves don't bother Mucci (and she's never gotten lice again — she and her staff follow strict cleanliness protocol), for her the job is all about the people she meets and helps. "It truly is meaningful work. People are feeling very isolated and ostracized and they're very grateful."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

**The Lowdown**

**Job title:** Nit picker

**Salary:** \$60 an hour

**Education:** On-the-job training

**Best part of the job:** "Meeting all the people and being able to help them."

**Worst part of the job:** "You see some pretty horrible cases. You have to have a thick skin. We work for children's agencies too and we go into situations that are heartbreaking."



Dawn Mucci demonstrates the lice removal technique she and her Lice Squad franchisees use.

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# Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

## Weekend box office

- 1 Race to Witch Mountain:**  
\$25 million US
- 2 Watchmen:**  
\$18.1 million
- 3 The Last House on the Left:**  
\$14.7 million
- 4 Taken:**  
\$6.7 million
- 5 Madea Goes to Jail:**  
\$5.1 million
- 6 Slumdog Millionaire:**  
\$5 million
- 7 Paul Blart: Mall Cop:**  
\$7.1 million
- 8 He's Just Not That Into You:**  
\$2.9 million
- 9 Coraline:**  
\$2.7 million
- 10 Miss March:**  
\$2.3 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Heartthrob hits the stage

Former Degrassi star Jake Epstein moves into more exploratory realm

**Here's the astonishing thing about Jake Epstein: What you see is what you get.**

The star of TV's Degrassi: The Next Generation is currently appearing as C.B., the Charlie Brown surrogate, in Dog Sees God, the ironic deconstruction of the legendary Peanuts characters that's now being performed at Six Degrees in Toronto.

Epstein, 22, has been a performer for almost all of his life, making his professional stage debut in Souleppper's Our Town at the Royal Alex before appearing on The Zack Files, prior to Degrassi and then going on to a stint at the National Theatre School.

But sitting opposite him

at a midtown pub, he seems less like the quintessential teen heartthrob and more like the kind of guy you'd like to have with you on a cross-country ski trip.

"I was a jock," he laughs, "hardcore sports all the way down the line, but I heard that if you auditioned for this arts school, you got time off school and that sounded good to me."

He insists he was blindsided when he walked into Claude Watson to study theatre and found himself within a year working for Souleppper Theatre.

After that, it was on to Mirvish Productions, where he played the Artful Dodger in Sam Mendes' production of Oliver!

"I never really thought



After five seasons on Degrassi: The Next Generation, actor Jake Epstein left for the National Theatre School.

that this would be my profession," he admits. "I thought it was a lot of fun and I enjoyed doing it."

Without even trying, he got cast in shows like The Zack Files, but the big moment, of course, was when he was offered the role of Craig on Degrassi: The Next Generation.

Edgy and experienced beyond his years, young Epstein suddenly found

himself doing things on screen he had never experienced in real life.

His character went through periods of drug abuse and violence that would have tipped the hand of many younger men playing the role.

He stayed with the show for five seasons, became incredibly popular and won a Gemini Award but then, one day, he found himself

asking, "I'm 18 years old and I can do anything I want; why am I here?"

That question sent him away from the safety of a hit TV series and to the National Theatre School, where he found it "very hard and very humbling. They break you down and it was amazing for me."

Since his graduation, he made a splash as Prince Charming in Ross Petty's Christmas production of Cinderella, opposite his Degrassi co-star, Paula Brancati. But now he's into something completely different with Dog Sees God, which takes all the classic tropes of the Peanuts cartoon strip and turns them on their head. The show begins with the death of Snoopy and finds Charlie Brown (or "C.B." as he's called here) trying to cope with the trauma.

"That's a little strange for me to deal with," he says at first, but then he laughs dismissively and says "no, it isn't. What the hell, I'm in theatre!" **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Furtado takes indie route

**MUSIC** Pop star Nelly Furtado is not the first major-label musician to start her own label, but she is one of the few to do it with an indie. Furtado is launching Nelstar in cooperation with the Canadian independent label group Last Gang Labels.

The Toronto-based electro-dance band Fritz Helder & the Phantoms is the first act signed to

Nelstar and will release its debut album July 7.

"Nelly just wasn't that interested in doing a OneRepublic/Timbaland type of thing," says Chris Taylor, president of Last Gang and Furtado's longtime attorney. "She's an independent spirit, and she wants to make sure we build the band at the right pace. It's also very important to launch a

band with indie branding behind them and be able to build them brick by brick."

Taylor points out that Furtado has close ties to the band, noting that two members are her backup dancers.

Furtado says she never considered introducing the Nelstar imprint via her label, Interscope.

"I'm happy there, and it would be great if Fritz got signed there at some point in the future," Furtado says. "But I also think that it's best to start off an indie. When you are a new band and you sign to a major, you get thrown to the fire. Plus, I always secretly wanted to be an indie artist ... A major turned out to be my destiny, but I'm enjoying reconnecting with the indie world."

Furtado adds that Interscope is aware of the project but says, "They have enough going on without my label adding to everything." Interscope didn't respond to an email request for comment.

REUTERS

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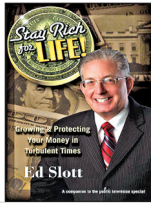


No life after Lost?

Matthew Fox won't make another TV show when Lost ends. The actor — who plays Dr. Jack Shephard — believes his small-screen career will be over when the program finishes at the end of season six next year. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK



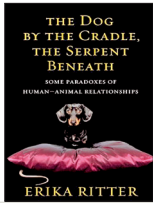
Saving those nest eggs



Stay Rich for Life

Author: Ed Slott  
Publisher: Ballantine Books  
Price: \$28 (Hardcover)

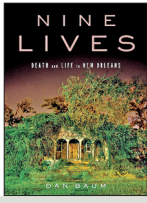
Popular American financial speaker Ed Slott specializes in retirement savings, but his new book, Stay Rich For Life, instructs how you can take steps at any stage in life to protect and foster the growth of your money. Although the terms he uses are largely applicable to Americans, his fundamental message is all encompassing. Slott advises readers to understand themselves and where they're going, learn as much as they can, know "tax traps" and dodge them, factor in long-term financial aims and take baby steps for healthy financial growth.



The Dog by the Cradle, The Serpent Beneath

Author: Erika Ritter  
Publisher: Key Porter Books  
Price: \$27.95 (Hardcover)

The family pet is a conundrum to Erika Ritter. The Canadian writer and former CBC Radio host takes a gender at how we idealize some animals, like the domestic dog and cat, but continue to ravage the lives of others. In The Dog by the Cradle, The Serpent Beneath, Ritter reaches back to the tale of a cradled baby left guarded by a dog, while a serpent lingers unbeknownst underneath, to describe the contradiction between how we treat some animals more favourably than others.



Nine Lives

Author: Dan Baum  
Publisher: Spiegel & Grau  
Price: \$30 (Hardcover)

If prone to natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and known as a historically destitute city, what draws people to New Orleans? Former staffer at the New Yorker Dan Baum tries to find the answer, in this account derived when his curiosity was piqued while reporting on the post-Katrina city. Baum enters the unique world of New Orleans using nine very different characters that share a commitment to the city. From a transsexual bartender, to a cop scarred by the hurricane, and a member of the New Orleans upper crust, Baum discovers a city that he contends has been narrowly painted by disaster coverage.

BRIAN COULTON/  
FOR METRO CANADA

The final frontier for books: Online

Given the ongoing flurry of technological advances in the publishing world, it's not surprising that the most common anecdotes shared by industry players at this year's BookNet Canada Technology Forum concerned the inability to sleep at night or contemplate taking a vacation for fear of falling behind.

The past month alone has seen a half dozen or so developments, most notably the unveiling in the U.S. by Amazon of the second generation of its Kindle e-book reader and the launch here by Indigo of Shortcovers, a new venture that allows readers to purchase and download books or even portions of books to a variety of devices.

No one seems certain where this is all heading, apart from a consensus that change is inevitable but the obituary for the book is not being written just yet.

One dystopian vision of the digital future might see reduced remuneration for authors and publishers, either because the Book Rights Registry agreed to by Google as compensation for putting vast li-

"The future — and it's happening now — is about bringing your content to a person whenever they want on whatever they decide they want it on."

Steve Paxhia, analyst

braries online falls far short of existing royalties or because readers find a way to take what they want free, as happened in the music industry. On the retail front, small independent booksellers, already struggling to compete with Indigo on pricing, might be further threatened by an inability to keep pace with the massive chain as innovations take hold. A less apocalyptic view foresees the book and its electronic offspring operating in somewhat parallel universes that allow both to thrive.

At times during the forum on Thursday, there was palpable tension between open-source advocates who would like to see DRM (digital rights management) barriers removed and those who want proprietary content regulations strengthened, to those who fall somewhere

in between.

"None of us wants our intellectual property to be used without recompense," said opening speaker Steve Paxhia, lead analyst for the Boston-based consultancy firm Gilbane Group. "But we do want our intellectual property to be used to serve our readers."

"The future — and it's happening now — is about bringing your content to a person whenever they want on whatever they decide they want it on," said Paxhia. "I might choose to read things on my laptop or my Kindle or my iPhone. If I'm reading a book online about Istanbul, I can go to a map or search for other information. You can't do that with a book."

"But if I'm on a beach in Nantucket I'll read a book."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

**MUSIC** Kid Rock says he's "on fire" in the studio, which has led him to scuttle plans to tour this spring in order to finish work on his follow-up to 2007's double-platinum album Rock N Roll Jesus. "I think I can make an equally good record, if not better than the last one," the rapper and singer-songwriter tells Billboard.

REUTERS

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

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critics' corner

Castle

Castle and Beckett go around and around over the case of a nanny whose body is found tumbling inside the dryer of a laundry room in the upscale apartment building where she worked. As the investigation unfolds, Castle tries to get inside Beckett's head while writing the first novel in his Nikki Heat series in "Nanny McDead." 10:02 PM on 20 ABC 6 SHRO



House

House sets out to disprove the allegations of new patient Morgan, a nursing home worker who feigns illness after being visited by the facility's cat, which has a reputation for visiting people who are about to die. When Morgan falls ill, House must unravel what's behind the kitty's track record in the new episode "Here Kitty." 8 PM on 3 GTV 36 FOX

24

Last seen in the "24: Redemption" TV movie, malevolent genius Jonas Hodges emerges as Jack's latest adversary as the fight to avert more terror attacks continues in "9:00 PM-10:00 PM." 9 PM on 3 GTV 36 FOX

PT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/16/09	265	353	2	TVO	Time Team (N)		The Agenda With Steve Paikin	Rebus "The Falls"		Auschwitz:Nazi-Final Solution		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	House "Here Kitty" (N)	24 (HDTV PA) (N)		Heroes (HDTV)		News
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	La Petite vie	L'Auberge du chien noir (SC)	Les Boys (SC)	Tout sur moi	Le Téléjournal et Les Nou		La Zone
	209	342	6	CHRO	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)			(10:02) Castle (N)		Comedy Now
	196	311	7	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	Big Bang Th	Gary Unmarr	Two/Half Men	Corner Gas (N)	CSI: Miami "Flight Risk"	News (N)
	208	303	8	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	Comedy Fest	Comedy Fest.	CBC News: The National	The Hour
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Chuck (HDTV)	Heroes (HDTV)			Medium "Car Trouble"	News (N)
	117	713	10	TVA	Les Gags	Star Académie:	Annie et ses hommes (N) (SC)	Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	-	-	11	QS	A comm	C'tune joke	CSI: NY (SC)	Flash Point		Cent dix pour cent (SC)		Msr Showbiz
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Lascaux, le ciel des hommes		Cent jours à Palermo (1984, Drame policier)	Folie-aventure	Professionnels	
news	-	362	13	CBS	Dr. Phil (HDTV)		Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Engagement	CSI: Miami "Flight Risk"	Two/Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Raymond	Raymond	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	Engagement	Two/Half Men	Buffalo Spirit
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Chuck (HDTV)		Less-Kind	Friends	Mantracker	News (N)
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)	Vivere II	News (N)	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill
	218	345	18	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	The Soup	How I Met	'Til Death	Engagement	Snoop Father	Snoop Father
	-	361	20	ABC	News (N)	Entertainment	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)				(10:02) Castle (N)	News (N)
	512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique			Revue	Période-quest.
	651	355	25	CTS	Happy Days	Laverne	Michael Coren Show		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	House "Here Kitty" (N)		24 (HDTV PA) (N)		News (N)	News
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Steves Europe	Antiques Roadshow		American Experience (HDTV)		Betty Ford: The Real Deal (N)	Charlie Rose
sports	205	312	104	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	Big Bang Th	Gary Unmarr	Two/Half Men	Corner Gas (N)	CSI: Miami "Flight Risk"	News (N)
	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		Allergy Planet Allergies.	National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)	
	406	417	27	net	World Sport	Sportsnet Con.	Baseball World Classic -- Teams TBA.	(HDTV) From Dolphin Stadium in Miami.	(Live)			Baseball
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National
	400	280	30	TSN	NBA Basketball Toronto Raptors at Charlotte Bobcats.	(HDTV) (Live)			SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre
	410	403	52	SCR	Poker 888.com UK Open.		The WWE Experience		(9:15) WWE Monday Night Raw			Score Tonight
	411	457	56	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Mantracker		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
	417	406	59	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	This Week in NASCAR		SuperCars	SuperCars	Barrett-Jackson	Car Crazy
	554	544	48	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch	Robot Chicken	American Dad
family	557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House
	551	542	65	YTV	Karaoke Star Junior		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	League-Evil	Zixx Level	Falcon Beach	
	570	580	29	MM	mmmtop	Revival	Listed (Part 1 of 2)		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Don't Forget the Lyrics!	Where You At
	615	520	31	A&E	Intervention "Dan"		Intervention "Brad"		Intervention "Sandy" (N)		Paranormal	Paranormal
	628	584	32	SPKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: NY "Grand Master"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scn
	521	560	34	TLC	Little People	Little People	Little People	Little People	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Twins, Twins & Sextuplets	Little People
	145	761	35	TV5	Mot de passe		Questions pour un champion				Club social	Journal TV5
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Cashing In	Kink in Hair	Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Name Is Earl	The Office
	620	523	40	BVO	Eva: The Price of Passion		Djanganmania!		Yo-Yo Ma: The Making of Songs of Joy & Peace			Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		MythBusters		Dirty Jobs		Explosions Gone Wrong	Daily Planet
cable variety	575	583	43	CMT	Karaoke Star Junior (N)		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith
	601	562	45	SLC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Project Runway Canada	ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Brand in New York City	Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Men in Black *** (1997, Comedy)	Tommy Lee Jones.		Steve Harvey	Seinfeld	Family Guy
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	For Rent	Income Prop.	Property Virgin	House Hunters	Ambrose Price	Petal Pushers
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis	(DVS)	Star Trek: Voyager		Lost		Sarah Connor Chronicles	Stargate SG-1
	581	566	53	MTV	The City	City Live After	MTV News	Cribs	The Girls of Hedsor Hall		The City	City Live After
	618	524	54	TROP	Vanity Insanity	Reality	Reality	E News	Ground Up		Are You Smarter	Make or Break
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS "Reveille"		Death or Canada	Irish-famine migration.			NCIS "Reveille"	Sea Hunters
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Le Brat Pack"		Les Grands travaux (HDTV)		Le Dernier combattant (HDTV)		Alliance meurtrière (HDTV)	Docu-D
cable variety	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	May-December	McLeod's Daughters (N)		Twist of Faith	Clergy
	602	567	62	W	Will & Grace	Friends	How Clean	Kim	Love It or List It		Dollars-Sense	Smart Cookies
	269	350	70	APTN	Notre Peuple		Terres arct.	Pachamama	Flic et Rebelle ** (1989, Crime Drama)	Kiefer Sutherland.		Tshinanu
	621	527	71	TLK	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	Paris Hilton's British Friend		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno	TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Chef at Home	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Food Detective	Road Tasted	Hell's Kitchen	Chef School





How nasty is the breakup between Jennifer Aniston and John Mayer? Not nasty at all, according to eonline.com. "They're definitely broken up, but it was completely amicable," a source said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Celebrity Buzz

# Lohan in compliance with court orders?

**MISUNDERSTANDING** Lindsay Lohan's attorney says an arrest warrant issued for the actress Friday and stemming from a 2007 DUI conviction was "born out of a misunderstanding," people.com reports.

"Since her case was resolved, Ms. Lohan has been in compliance with all the terms and conditions of her probation and all orders of the court," her lawyer Shawn Chapman Holley said in a statement Saturday, referring to Lohan's 2007 conviction for driving under the influence. "The warrant issued on Friday was, in our view, born out of a misunderstanding which I am confident I can clear up next week."

A hearing for Lohan is

set for Monday morning in a Beverly Hills court. "The judge apparently has indicated that Ms. Lohan should be in attendance," said L.A. DA

spokes-

woman

Sandi

Gib-

bons.

Lohan,

22, is

cur-

rently serving a three-year probation term for the DUI incident, the actress's second.

"We are not actively looking for Ms. Lohan at this time," Beverly Hills Police Lt. Mark Rosen said at a Saturday press conference. "We are not anticipating her surrender this weekend. But if she comes in contact with police, she's subject to arrest. As for why we're not actively looking for her, that's not our procedure for this type of warrant. Her attorney is hoping to resolve this issue in the coming week. If it's not resolved, I'm sure we'll negotiate her voluntary surrender."

Lohan's latest legal woe followed a night of partying that included dinner with pals at the Chateau Marmont — and a bizarre late-night visit to the Hollywood home of actor Jack Nicholson, people.com alleges. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Allen's legal action against paparazzi

**PEOPLE** Lily Allen isn't going to let a few run-ins with the paparazzi take away that smile, eonline.com reports. Late last week, the British songbird made tabloid headlines by throwing a haymaker and water bottle at a photographer who allegedly rear-ended her car.

Now the singer, who has spoken out before about being shutterbugged, is taking a more appropriate action, the website adds. She filed — and was granted — an injunction against the offending photographers.

"My client has faced constant harassment over the last few months from the paparazzi. As a result of this and various incidents of harassment that took place ...

my client has now been forced to take legal action," Allen's lawyer, Mark Thomson, said in a statement. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Jackson set to release new music

**CAREER** Michael Jackson is set to thrill fans eagerly awaiting his comeback concerts by releasing new music before making his return to the stage, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Thriller star has announced plans to end his career hiatus with a series of live shows — dubbed This Is It — at London's O2 Arena in July.

At a press conference last week, the King Of Pop told the press he would be "performing songs the fans wanna hear" at his upcoming residency.

But the star may have to clear room on his concert setlist for new material — he is headed into the studio to record more music.



**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Stern's attorney calls him a 'victim'

**COURTS** The Florida attorney who represented Howard K. Stern two years ago in the tug-of-war over the remains of Anna Nicole Smith says he's a victim, not a felon, people.com reports.

"The television, tabloid and Internet trial of Mr. Stern in the court of public opinion has been based on sensational lies, speculation, rumour and gossip," Krista Barth

claims in a statement to Entertainment Tonight. "Unfortunately, it appears that criminal charges have now been brought by the state of California based on this same type of misinformation."

California Attorney General Jerry Brown told a news conference Friday that Stern was the "enabler" in a conspiracy to feed Smith's drug addiction.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Lopez praises hubby Marc

**COUPLE** Jennifer Lopez has heaped praise on her husband Marc Anthony — because he's always willing to get up in the middle of the night to attend to their twins, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The singer/actress insists she's found a perfect dad in the star — because he never grumbles about having to perform his share of baby burping and diaper duty.

**METRO NEWS SERVICE**



# Phoenix is 'softie', Paltrow

**PEOPLE** Gwyneth Paltrow thinks Joaquin Phoenix is a "real softie," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 36-year-old actress stars alongside the troubled actor — who has been acting increasingly erratic recently and is sporting a large unkempt beard — in upcoming film Two Lovers and insists he isn't as eccentric as people think.

She said: "He has trouble relaxing. He's a very intense guy. Some-

times you don't want to disturb him because he's sitting there and there's a lot going on, but he's a real softie.

"He's a lovely, sensitive, kind person. It was interesting to watch him work. We work completely differently, totally opposite."

In Two Lovers, Phoenix's character becomes obsessed with his neighbour, played by Paltrow, who is in turn besotted with a married man.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Radiohead fight back at Cyrus

**DISPUTE** When Radiohead refused to meet Miley Cyrus at the Grammy Awards last month, the starlet threatened to "ruin" them. Now, the In Rainbows band is fighting back, eonline.com reports.

Cyrus kicked off the feud during an appearance on the Johnjay & Ray radio show, and Radiohead responded by putting the teen in her place. "When Miley grows up, she'll learn not to have such a sense of entitlement," the quintet said in a statement.

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